



2005 SENATE RESOLUTION 7

May 3, 2005 - Introduced by Senators WIRCH, BRESKE, ERPENBACH, LASSA and ZIEN.

1 **Relating to:** urging the House Armed Services Committee as well as the entire
2 United States Congress to adopt H.R. 605, awarding a Medal of Honor
3 posthumously to First Lieutenant Garlin Murl Conner.

4 Whereas, Lieutenant Garlin Murl Conner is a decorated war hero, who served
5 on the front lines for over 800 days in 8 major campaigns; and

6 Whereas, Lieutenant Conner was wounded 7 times but returned to combat and
7 continued to fight on the front lines after each wound; and

8 Whereas, during World War II, over 40 3rd Infantry Division soldiers received
9 Medals of Honor, more than any other division; and

10 Whereas, Lieutenant Garlin Murl Conner was not awarded the Medal of Honor
11 due to an oversight and failure to process the paperwork; and

12 Whereas, Lieutenant Conner served in the 3rd Infantry Division and was
13 awarded Silver Stars for acts of valor, awarded many honors including the
14 Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star with 3 oak leaf clusters, the Bronze Star,
15 the Purple Heart with 6 oak leaf clusters, and other medals; and

1 Whereas, on June 20, 1945, Lieutenant Conner was awarded the Croix de
2 Guerre, the French medal of honor, that was also awarded to Sergeant Alvin C. York,
3 America’s most decorated World War I soldier, who was a friend of Lieutenant Conner
4 and lived a few miles from Lieutenant Conner’s home on the Kentucky–Tennessee
5 border; and

6 Whereas, Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey (Ret.), who was Lieutenant Conner’s
7 battalion commander during combat in World War II, is still living and has signed
8 the necessary documents for awarding the Medal of Honor to Lieutenant Conner;
9 and

10 Whereas, in 1945, Major General Ramsey wrote that Lieutenant Conner was
11 “one of the outstanding soldiers of this war, if not *the* outstanding.... I’ve never seen
12 a man with as much courage and ability as he has”; and

13 Whereas, 7 former generals, including General William Ramsey, General
14 William Seitz, General Edward Flanagan, General James Johnson, General William
15 Rosson, General Gerald H. Bethke, and General Edward Thomas, support the efforts
16 to award Lieutenant Conner the Medal of Honor; and

17 Whereas, Stephen Ambrose, America’s foremost World War II historian,
18 founder of the D–Day Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana, and author of many
19 books, wrote on November 11, 2000, “I am in complete support of the effort to make
20 Lieutenant Garlin M. Conner a Medal of Honor recipient. What Lieutenant Conner
21 did in stopping the German assault near Houssen, France, in January 1945 was far
22 above the call of duty. I’ve met and talked at length with many Medal of Honor
23 recipients and am sure they would all agree that Lieutenant Conner more than
24 deserves the honor of joining them”; and

1 Whereas, on April 3, 2001, 3rd Infantry Division leaders named the new Eagle
2 Base in Bosnia–Herzegovina after Lieutenant Conner because of his gallantry in
3 World War II and because, “It’s a company–grade forward operating base named
4 after a soldier with a company–grade rank”; and

5 Whereas, Richard Chilton, a former Green Beret from Genoa City, Wisconsin,
6 has been on a mission since 1996 to have the Medal of Honor awarded to Lieutenant
7 Conner, and his research has documented that Lieutenant Conner is one of the great
8 combat heroes of World War II; and

9 Whereas, Chilton has made presentations to dozens of schools about
10 Lieutenant Conner’s war record and has copies of over 2,500 letters written by
11 students from the Kenosha Military Academy, Burlington Catholic Central High
12 School, Wilmot Union High School, East Troy High School, Williams Bay High
13 School, Lake Geneva Badger High School, Union Grove High School, Elkhorn High
14 School, Whitewater Middle School, Brookwood Middle School, Wheatland Middle
15 School, Randall Middle School, Bristol Elementary School, Trevor Grade School,
16 Reek Elementary School, and Brighton Elementary School to President George W.
17 Bush requesting the Medal of Honor be awarded to Lieutenant Conner; and

18 Whereas, after reviewing Chilton’s information, a host of former war veterans
19 have written Congress requesting passage of H.R. 605 to award the Medal of Honor
20 to one of America’s greatest citizen soldiers, Lieutenant Garlin Murl Conner; now,
21 therefore, be it

22 ***Resolved, That*** the members of the Wisconsin legislature urge the House
23 Armed Services Committee as well as the entire United States Congress to adopt
24 H.R. 605, awarding a Medal of Honor posthumously to First Lieutenant Garlin Murl
25 Conner, and, be it further

